

## WHY DOES IT TAKE SO LONG???

- ✓ TRAVEL TIME OF EVIDENCE
- ✓ TESTING IN OTHER SECTIONS
- ✓ PRELIMINARY SCREENING
- ✓ CONFIRMATION TESTING
- ✓ MULTIPLE DRUG CATEGORIES
- ✓ ANALYZE DATA / TYPE REPORTS
- ✓ PEER REVIEW REPORTS

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## WHY DOES IT TAKE SO LONG???

- ✓ COURT TIME (Including travel, preparation, and interviews)
- ✓ PHONE CALLS (Attorneys, Officers)
- ✓ RESEARCH
- ✓ METHOD DEVELOPMENT
- ✓ TRAINING
- ✓ BECAUSE THIS ISN'T TV



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## Progression of a Toxicology Case

### ● Step One: Obtain Evidence

- The evidence is retrieved from our Property and Evidence section.
- The evidence is opened, documented and labeled.

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## Progression of a Toxicology Case

### ● Step Two – Preliminary Screen

- All samples undergo a preliminary screen.
- ELISA is the screening technique used by DPS.
- The screen is able to detect 6 different *categories* of drugs, 9 in blood:

Barbiturates	Cocaine Metab	Methadone*
Benzodiazepines	Opiates	Zolpidem*
Amphetamines	THC	Carisoprodol*

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## Progression of a Toxicology Case

- Not all drugs react with ELISA.

Oxycontin	Demerol	Ativan
Methadone	Darvon	Soma
Rohypnol	Klonopin	PCP
Ambien	Prozac	Adderall

- These drugs require a secondary screen.

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## Progression of a Toxicology Case

### ● Step Three – Confirmation Test

- Requires a lengthy preparation step.
- Identifies the specific drug(s) which triggered a positive response on the ELISA or secondary screen.
- A separate confirmation test is required for each drug category.

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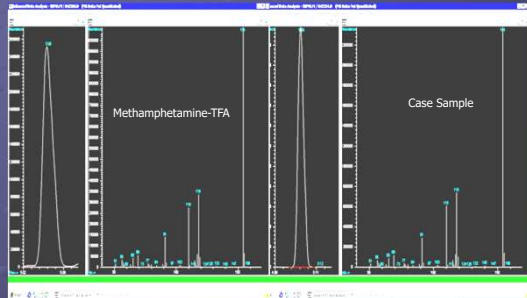
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Confirmation is a direct comparison of the sample to a known drug.



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## Progression of a Toxicology Case

### ● Step Four – Generation of Reports

- After data is reviewed, reports are generated.
- Every report is then reviewed technically and analytically before being sent out.

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## INTERPRETING TOXICOLOGY RESULTS

If your report states:

The following preliminary results were obtained:	
-Barbiturate	Not Detected
-Benzodiazepines	Not Detected
-Cocaine metabolite	Not Detected
-Methamphetamine/MDMA	Not Detected
-Opiates	Not Detected
-THC metabolite	Not Detected
-Methadone	Not Detected
-Carisoprodol	Not Detected
-Zolpidem	Not Detected

*It means we stopped after the negative preliminary screen.*

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-Methamphetamine/MDMA	Not Detected
-Opiates	Not Detected
-THC metabolite	Not Detected
-Methadone	Not Detected
-Carisoprodol	Not Detected
-Zolpidem	Not Detected
-Secondary Screening	Drugs Not Detected

*It means that we looked for (almost) everything.*

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## Detection Times (Blood/Urine)

- Amphetamines 6-30 hours / 12-72 hours
- Barbiturates hours-days / 24 hours (short) / 2-3 weeks (long)
- Benzodiazepines hours-days / 3 days (therapeutic) / 30 days (extended dose)
- Cocaine 4-6 hours (COCN), 30 hours (BE) / 2-4 days (BE)
- Methadone 1-2 days / 1-4 days
- Opiates 6-12 hours / 1-2 days
- Carisoprodol 8 hours (C), 24-48 hours (B) / 2-3 days

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## Detection Times (Blood/Urine)

- Cannabinoids
  - single use 12-24 hours / 1-3 days
  - moderate-heavy use 24-48 hours / 3-10 days
  - chronic use 3-7 days / 30 days
- PCP
  - occasional use 1-3 days / Up to 5 days
  - chronic use 3-7 days / Up to 30 days

**\*\*Note:** Detection times in both blood and urine may vary depending on an individual's drug metabolism, half-life, dose, route of administration, frequency of ingestion, and laboratory capabilities

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## Detection Times in Blood

**Blood detection times vary based on drug, dosage, individual's metabolism, half-life, route of administration, frequency of ingestions and laboratory capabilities. Drugs may be detected anywhere from a few hours up to 24 hours. Drugs found in blood give a better indication of impairment.**

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